

Message

From: btrout22@everyactioncustom.com [btrout22@everyactioncustom.com]
on behalf of David Carmichael [btrout22@everyactioncustom.com]
Sent: 7/24/2020 6:11:24 PM
To: Hladick, Christopher [hladick.christopher@epa.gov]
Subject: I am writing to you today regarding the proposed Pebble Mine in Bristol Bay, Alaska

Dear Region 10 Administrator Christopher Hladick,

I have written a similar letter many times. Time is running out. I hope that you will listen to Alaskans, the majority of whom oppose the Pebble Mine. Pebble not only poses great risk to the greatest salmon fishery on the planet, but also to the communities and economies that depend upon it.

Right now, Bristol Bay is having another banner year of sockeye returns. Over 35 million sockeye have returned to Bristol Bay so far. These salmon not only feed generations of Alaskan Native communities, but drive an economy of over \$1.5 billion annually and support over 14,000 jobs.

Yet, the permitting process for the Pebble Mine moves forward at a dangerous pace. Throughout the entire EIS process for Pebble every agency at state and federal levels has called the science into question. Your own agency not only questioned the science, but raised flags about the Army Corps cutting corners and ignoring key data. According to EPA, the development of Pebble Mine would likely result in the "permanent loss of 2,292 acres of wetlands" and "hundreds of miles of streams." This doesn't even factor in the potential for more than 10 billion tons of mining waste in the heart of Bristol Bay's watershed.

Senators Murkowski and Sullivan have both expressed concern about Pebble Mine and helped pass legislation in the United State Congress last year that encourages the EPA to use its "enforcement authority under the Clean Water Act...at an appropriate time."

That time is now.

EPA, you have a responsibility to protect the Bristol Bay watershed. I am the president of my local fly fishing club with more than 250 members. Every year some of the members travel from New Mexico to Alaska to fish for salmon with a fly rod. I hope to do so in the next few years, and I hope my children will be able to do so in the future as well. That all depends on you; on whether you will do what is right for the long term health of the Bristol Bay ecosystem and those residents, businesses, and traditional cultures dependent on the the salmon fishery for their survival. It is telling that all of the major investors in the proposed Pebble Mine have pulled out because they recognize that the mine as proposed is not financially viable. The science is clear, even though much of it was ignored during the preparation of the current FEIS, and the decision to reject the mine should be clear as well.

Please, veto the Pebble Mine and protect Bristol Bay.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
David Carmichael

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Las Cruces, NM 88007-4805